

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEETP.G. County Survey # 79-10 Date 1780'sBuilding Name Compton BassettLocation Marlboro Pike, southeast of Upper Marlboro, Md.Open to Public      yes   x   no

Compton Bassett is a two-story brick Georgian house covered with stucco and painted white. The main block of the house is five bays wide with a hipped roof which is pierced by two interior chimneys aligned with the second and fourth bays. A two-story wing extends on the northeast. The southeast facade of the main block has a projecting central pavilion, flanked by two windows on each floor. The main entrance is a six-panel door with handsome Georgian surround of reeded and fluted pilasters that support a triangular pediment. Above the door is a five-pane fanlight, and closely flanking the doorway are two narrow ten-light windows. On the second floor of the pavilion is a 12-light window, capped with a fanlight identical to that over the door, and flanked with narrow eight-light windows, resembling a Palladian window. The pavilion is capped with a pediment containing a small lunette window, again identical to the fanlight over the entrance door.

The floor plan of the main floor is that of a center hall with two rooms on each side. Each room has a fireplace centered on its interior wall; there is also a large fireplace in the cellar kitchen. Delicately carved moldings grace the interior of the entire house: the cornices, mantels, door and window surrounds.

Compton Bassett is one of Prince George's County's finest examples of the Georgian style. The house and its surrounding land have remained largely unaltered to the present day. It has been the seat of Clement Mill, Jr. and his descendants since 1700. The present mansion house was built shortly after the Revolutionary War, replacing the original one which burned in 1771.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Compton Bassett

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

16508 Marlboro Pike (Maryland Route 725) ☐ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Upper Marlboro

☒ VICINITY OF

Fourth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Maryland

024

Prince George's

033

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert B. Sasscer and Henry S. Sasscer

STREET &amp; NUMBER

16508 Marlboro Pike

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Upper Marlboro

☒ VICINITY OF

Maryland 20870

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Upper Marlboro

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1936

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Washington,

D.C.

**7 DESCRIPTION**

PG 79-10

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

---

Compton Bassett is situated on a high, wooded hill overlooking the Patuxent River one quarter mile to the east. Maryland Route 4 is south of the house and Marlboro Pike is to the west. The property is approximately 1 1/2 miles east of Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland.

This two-story brick Georgian house is covered with cream colored stucco, and has a high basement of grey stucco. The main block of the house measures 50 feet by 40 feet with a two-story wing extending on the northeast side. The hipped roof is pierced by two interior chimneys aligned above the second and fourth bays.

The southeast (front) facade has a slightly projecting pavilion in the center flanked on either side by two windows on each floor. These windows have nine-over-nine light sash. On the first floor of the pavilion is the main entrance, a six-panel door with handsome Georgian surround. On the interior this door is faced with twelve wide horizontal boards beaded at the lower edge; the door hardware appears to be original. The door surround has reeded and fluted pilasters that support a triangular pediment. Above the door is a simple but delicate five pane fanlight. The whole first floor of the pavilion is framed with a simple, rectangular, flat-roofed porch. Within the posts of the porch, closely flanking the doorway, are two narrow ten-light windows. On the second floor of the pavilion is a 12-light window capped with a fanlight identical to that over the door and flanked with narrow eight-light windows. This three-part configuration closely resembles a Palladian window. The pavilion is capped with a pediment containing a small lunette window, again identical to the fanlight over the entrance door.

The northwest facade is similar to the southeast with a few notable exceptions. The central portion is flush with the wall rather than projecting, and there is no pediment breaking the roof line. The entrance is also a six-paneled door with identical fanlight but the door surround is much simpler: two pilasters topped with an architrave in semi-circular form. There are louvered shutters on all the windows, including the narrow ones that flank the door and the window above it.

The southwest facade of the house has a nine-over-nine double hung sash window at each floor level. These are placed off-center, closer to the front of the building. A gable dormer with six-over-six sash window is centered on this slope of the hip roof. On the northeast facade a two-story stucco-covered brick kitchen wing in an L shape was added in 1928.

The floor plan of the main block consists of a center hall flanked by two rooms on each side. The open string stair, with delicately carved balusters, is at the northwest end of the hall. Each room has a fireplace centered on its interior wall. There is also a very large fireplace in the old kitchen in the cellar.

See Continuation Sheer #1

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) local history	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES after 1783

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Henry Chandlee Forman in his Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, "the symmetrical Georgian house is the rule in Prince George's County." (p.83). Compton Bassett is one very fine example of this style. The symmetrical, three-part facade; palladian motif in the first and second stories of the pavilion; symmetrical site plan of house and dependencies, as well as the well-executed interior woodwork all are characteristic of Georgian architecture in the second half of the 18th century. The house and its setting have remained largely untouched to the present day.

Compton Bassett has been the seat of Clement Hill, Jr. and his descendants since 1700.<sup>1</sup> For 276 years, at least a part of the original patent has been in the occupancy of direct descendants of the patentee. The social status of Compton Bassett's early owners was reflected in their marriages with the most prominent Roman Catholic families in the Province. The many similarities in design between Compton Bassett and His Lordship's Kindness (National Register, Prince George's County) are well-known and should not be considered coincidental when the close kinship of their early owners is taken into account. Primarily engaged in agriculture, each generation of the family has actively served its church, state and community.

Clement Hill, Jr. (1670-1743) came to Maryland in 1693. He lived with his uncle, Clement Hill, Sr., until 1696 when he married Ann Darnall, daughter of Col. Henry Darnall of The Woodyard. Hill lived at the latter place until the summer of 1699 when Col. Darnall returned from England bringing to his son-in-law a commission from Lord Baltimore as Surveyor General of the Western Shore.<sup>2</sup> It is recorded in the Rent Rolls that Clement Hill, Jr. had Compton Bassett, 748 acres, surveyed July 19, 1699.<sup>3</sup> Within a year he had completed the construction of a home that he named after a house he had known in his native England.<sup>4</sup> No description of that house built in 1700 is known to exist. The 1743 Inventory of Clement Hill's estate was made room-by-room and lists "Chamber over the Great Roome..., Chamber over the Little Roome..., Chamber over the Hall..., Dining Roome..., Hall..., Hall Closett..., Great Roome..., Little Roome..., Store..., Kitchen..., and Passage...."

Clement Hill, Jr.'s will gave his house and dwelling plantation to his wife during her lifetime and then to their son, Clement, (1707-1782) who had married Mary Digges, a daughter of Charles of Warburton Manor.<sup>5</sup>

See Continuation Sheet #3

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet #6

Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Administration #12747

Land Records AB-11:17, 3446:687, 3603:114, 3803:510

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

Federal Direct Tax, 1798. Patuxent Hundred, Prince George's County,

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 266

## UTM REFERENCES

Figure 1 consists of six plots arranged in a 2x3 grid. The columns are labeled 'ZONE', 'EASTING', and 'NORTHING'. The rows are labeled 'A' and 'C'. Each plot shows a horizontal axis with 10 tick marks. Row A shows points distributed across all zones, while Row C shows points concentrated in the first zone.

Figure 1 consists of a 2x3 grid of diagrams. The columns are labeled 'ZONE', 'EASTING', and 'NORTHING'. The rows are labeled 'B' and 'D'. Each diagram shows a horizontal line with vertical tick marks. The 'B' row shows a single tick mark for 'ZONE', two for 'EASTING', and three for 'NORTHING'. The 'D' row shows two tick marks for 'ZONE', three for 'EASTING', and four for 'NORTHING'.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Margaret W. Cook/Pamela James

## ORGANIZATION

DATE December 1976

Prince George's County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust/  
STREET & NUMBER Maryland Historical Trust TELEPHONE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

5621 Delaware Drive/ 21 State Circle

(301) 839-3638/269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Oxon Hill, / Annapolis

Maryland 20021/21401

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

**THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:**

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

STATE\_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

**TITLE**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:**

**KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett

Prince George's County,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The delicately carved moldings grace the interior of the entire house, especially the cornice, door surrounds and mantel. Six-paneled doors are enclosed in finely carved moldings, the top frames fluted and reeded, and capped by a dentil cornice. This design is echoed in the fireplace mantels in the parlor and library, notable for a stylized triglyph and metope design. A simplified design is used on the other mantels in the house. There is a chair rail in the parlor, dining room and hall.

The stair hall is divided by a cross arch with fanlight supported by four reeded and fluted pilasters. The handrail of the stairway has two turned, square balusters per tread, and ends in a volute. There is a wooden hand rail on the wall side of the stairway.

The windows have interior, four-paneled shutters which fold into recesses in the sides of the window frames. The area beneath the windows is paneled.

The ceilings on both the main and second floors measure twelve feet in height. The floors are covered with original random width pine boards. The attic framing contains both sawn and hewn members. The cellar is of brick.

The use of the Georgian style in the house was carried over into the site plan. There are four dependencies symmetrically placed at the four corners of the house, one in each compass direction. These are a chapel, a meat house, a dairy and the site of a store house, all approximately contemporary to the house.

The chapel, located approximately fifty feet from the south corner of the main block, is the largest of the three dependencies. The one-story building with cellar measures approximately 24 by 16 feet. It is constructed of brick with random glazed headers in all the walls, and has a steep gable roof. The main doorway, reached by five steps leading directly to the door, is near the west corner of the north facade. The four-panel door is framed by two plain pilasters with molded edges and a round-headed, five-light transom that repeats the pattern of the main entrance of the house. To the east of the doorway are two nine-over-nine light windows. The east end of the chapel is dominated by a large chimney flanked by nine-over-nine light windows on the first floor level and tiny windows high in the gable. The south facade has three evenly spaced windows matching those on the north. The west wall has one window high in the gable and a priest's door near the north corner. The six-panel door has no surround. A plain vertical board door, centered along the base of the north facade at ground level, leads to a cellar.

See Continuation Sheet #2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett  
Prince George's County,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The brick meat house located to the west of the house has a steep gable roof similar to that used on the chapel and dairy. The building, built of brick with random glazed headers, measures 12 by 16 feet. A door is located on the east gable end wall.

The dairy is situated to the north of the house and is similar in appearance to the meat house, except for a centrally placed short, arched window in the south, west and north walls. The structure measures 14 by 16 feet, and is entered through a door on its east side. A frame addition has been built on the north side of the building.

A fourth dependency, thought to have been a store house, probably stood off the north corner of the house at one time. Bonded bricks have been found beneath the ground at the estimated location.

A family burial ground is located west of the mansion. Many burial stones date from the early 1800's, and it is thought there are other unmarked graves in the cemetery.

Other farm buildings on the property include a stable, cow shed, stable used for hay storage and tobacco barn, all dating from the 20th century.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett  
Prince George's County,  
Maryland

---

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

It was this Clement Hill who donated supplies to the support of the patriot army in 1788.<sup>6</sup> Perhaps due to the stress of the times, the original mansion house, which according to family records burned in 1771, was not rebuilt until after the Revolutionary War.

Clement Hill (1743-1807), only son and heir of his father, was left the responsibility of replacing the family dwelling house. The builder he employed is not known. "A. L. Gosnell" was scratched into wet plaster over the dormer on the southeast facade. His identity has not been established. The present house and dependencies are described in the Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798, with 1896 acres of adjoining land.<sup>7</sup> (See Addendum)

Whether or not this house resembles the 1700 structure is unknown. Smoke-stained bricks are found in the present structure. It is believed the present house was covered with pebble dash to hide the stained bricks. The White House architect, James Hoban, came to Compton Bassett in March of 1822 for consultation concerning certain improvements to the mansion, including pebble dash for the exterior. Receipts for Hoban's services and building materials appear in Dr. William Hill's accounts.

County Court records show that Clement Hill was appointed a Commissioner of Tax in 1792 and again in 1803.<sup>9</sup> His 1807 will gave the dwelling house to his wife, Eleanor, during her lifetime and then to their son, William. Eleanor Brent Hill was the daughter of William Brent of Virginia. Her mother was a sister of Daniel Carroll, signer of the Federal Constitution, and of John Carroll, the first American Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church.<sup>10</sup>

Dr. William Hill (1783-1823), who married Anne Smith, daughter of Dr. Clement Smith, Jr., inherited Compton Bassett by terms of his father's will. By 1818 he had acquired additional land to total the 2,182 acres that he had resurveyed as Woodland.<sup>11</sup> In 1814, when Dr. William Beanes of Upper Marlboro was captured by the British, an episode which culminated in Francis Scott Key's creation of our National Anthem, Dr. Hill, a close friend of Beanes, was also taken but gained an early release from his captors.<sup>12</sup> Dr. Hill was one of the organizers of Planter's Bank in Marlborough in 1817.<sup>13</sup> When he died in 1823, he gave life rights to his dwelling plantation to his wife, then to his son, William Beanes Hill.

William Beanes Hill (1813-1890), Judge of the Orphan's Court for 25

See Continuation Sheet #4



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett  
Prince George's County,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

years, State Senator in 1877 and Secretary of the State of Maryland, was a graduate of St. Mary's College at Emmitsburg, Maryland, and one of the leading planters in the state. He married Catherine Beall Smith, daughter of Richard of Georgetown. Judge Hill was one of the original stockholders in the Maryland Agricultural College (now the University of Maryland) in 1856.<sup>14</sup> In 1884 he founded the Woodland Bridge Company, Inc. to operate a toll facility across the Patuxent River near Hill's Landing. An undated drawing, entitled "Hill's Landing," shows the bridge, a stern-wheeler steamer and a brick kiln at the water's edge.<sup>15</sup> This establishment was located just south of the present day Maryland Route 4 bridge. The Landing, as such, is no longer in existence.

- Judge Hill willed his dwelling house to his eldest daughter, Esther G. Hill. It was she who gave the religious articles in the family chapel to St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Upper Marlboro in 1895.<sup>16</sup> Incidentally, no record has been found to show deconsecration of the chapel. It may still be a Roman Catholic Church. Esther G. Hill died in 1900, giving the family home to her niece, Mary Dixon Beale, who had married Reverdy Sasscer, M.D. Two of their sons, Henry S. Sasscer and Dr. Robert B. Sasscer, are currently the owners and occupants of the mansion. The surrounding acreage is still a working farm.

<sup>1</sup>Bowie, Effie Gwynn, Across the Years in Prince George's County. (Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1947) p. 427

<sup>2</sup>Bowie, p. 426

<sup>3</sup>Rent Rolls #4:324, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

<sup>4</sup>Bowie, p. 426

<sup>5</sup>Bowie, p. 249

<sup>6</sup>Red Books, Part 2, items 1604-1605, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

— <sup>7</sup>Federal Direct Tax, 1798, Patuxent Hundred, Prince George's County, Maryland. Particular lists of dwellings and of land.

<sup>8</sup>Hill Papers, unpublished. Dr William Hill letter to Hoban, 14 March 1822. William Hill Accounts, 20 March 1822, paid \$20.00 to James Hoban and \$6.00 to William Gallaway for "gig and horse" to transport Hoban for two days.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett  
Prince George's County,  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 5

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (footnotes continued)

<sup>9</sup>Van Horn, R. Lee, Out of The Past. (Riverdale: Prince George's County Historical Society, 1976) pp. 217 and 242.

<sup>10</sup>Bowie, p. 112

<sup>11</sup>Patented Certificate #2392 for Prince George's County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>12</sup>Van Horn, pp. 262-263  
News and Notes of the Prince George's County Historical Society, Riverdale, Maryland, p. 29

<sup>13</sup>Van Horn, p. 269

<sup>14</sup>News and Notes, p. 59

<sup>15</sup>Hill Papers, unpublished.

<sup>16</sup>Bowie, p. 427

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Compton Bassett  
Prince George's County,  
Maryland

---

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 6

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

Maryland. Particular Lists of Dwellings and Land  
Inventories, DD#1, RNR#1:315-317  
Patented Certificate, Prince George's County, #2392  
Patent, CC#4:161, WD:261

Red Books, Part 2, Items #1604-1605

Rent Rolls #4:324, 327, 332

Wills, 23:215, T#1:634, TT#1:340, WAJ, Jr., #1:660, JBP#1:668

Hill Family Papers, unpublished, in possession of the family

Secondary Sources:

Bowie, Effie Gwynn. Across the Years in Prince George's County.  
Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1947. pp. 427-448

Columbia Encyclopedia, 3rd Edition. New York: Columbia University  
Press, 1968. p. 956

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses in Maryland.  
Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934. p. 83

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Old Buildings Gardens and Furniture in Maryland.  
Cambridge, Maryland: Tidewater Publishers, 1967.

Hienton, Louise Joyner. Prince George's Heritage. Baltimore: Maryland  
Historical Society, 1972. p. 110

News and Notes of Prince George's County Historical Society. Riverdale,  
Maryland: Prince George's County Historical Society, October  
1973 and June 1975.

Scarborough, Katherine. Homes of the Cavaliers. New York: Macmillan  
Company, 1930. p. 99

Wilstach, Paul. Tidewater Maryland. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill  
Company, 1931. p. 298

Form 10-445  
(5/62)

1. STATE Md. COUNTY PG TOWN STREET NO. 1 mile n.e. Md. # between bx. #2150 Wells corner and Waysons		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
ORIGINAL OWNER Corner ORIGINAL USE Hill-Priv. dwelling PRESENT OWNER Sasscers PRESENT USE Priv dwell WALL CONSTRUCTION stucco NO. OF STORIES 2		2. NAME Compton Basset DATE OR PERIOD ca. 1780 STYLE Country Georgian ARCHITECT Rob't. Sasscer did some BUILDERS Descendants of Clement Hill	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
<p>Orig. house c. 1680 burned. Had been built by Clement Hill  Present house has hipped roof.  Pilladian windows on second floor, front and rear.  Many orig. outbuildings.  Small, two-room brick chapel near house - HABS - 2 photos  Nice woodwork, late georgian mantel  All orig. batten door hardware.</p> <p>Family graveyard 300 yds. west of house</p> <p><i>J. C. Wilfang, Jr., April 30, 1969 - says "most sources  date as 1789". map #123 on Md. Nat'l  Cap. Park &amp; Planning.</i></p> <p><i>HABS - 6 photos</i></p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		6. PHOTOGRAPH	
Endangered Interior Exterior			
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <del>Forman, 88</del> Bowie, 456.94.427.445 Forman, Early Manor, 1934 p 83 Rinn, Survey, p 94		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  DATE OF RECORD	

*Md. P. Cap Pk P map #123.  
(1969)*

PG. # 79-10  
1702905204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Compton Bassett House and Chapel				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 16508 Marlboro Pike				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE</b> (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments				
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Robert Sasscer				
STREET AND NUMBER: 16508 Marlboro Pike				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress				
STREET AND NUMBER: 10 First Street SE				
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, DC			STATE:	

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>The house is a two story, brick building covered with pebbledash, scored to resemble stone for the high basement. The five-bay, main (east) facade has a projecting, pedimented pavillion with a doorway and flanking 4/6 lights. The windows are 9/9 double hung sash with stone sills. There is a boxed cornice with a dentillated bed moulding and a double ogee crown moulding; it returns into the gable of the central pavillion. There are latteral internal chimneys on either end slope of the hipped roof. The west facade is similar to the front except that it has no pavillion and the south bay is a second door.</p> <p>The chapel is a small, three bay, brick building with the entrance in one end bay. It has an arched surround with a leaded fanlight. The two windows are 9/9 double hung sash. On the east end there is an external chimney with tapered weatherings, three stretchers tall, before narrowing to a stack. Windows flank the chimney both on the main level and in the loft.</p> <p>There are a brick dairy and brick smokehouse west of the house. They have gabled roofs and central doorways, the smokehouse with a jack arch over the door, the dairy with segmental arches.</p>						

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian  
☐ 15th Century

- ☐ 16th Century  
☐ 17th Century

- ☒ 18th Century  
☐ 19th Century

- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1780

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

## Aboriginal

- ☐ Prehistoric  
☐ Historic  
☐ Agriculture  
☐ Architecture  
☐ Art  
☐ Commerce  
☐ Communications  
☐ Conservation

☐ Education

- ☐ Engineering  
☐ Industry  
☐ Invention  
☐ Landscape  
     Architecture  
☐ Literature  
☐ Military  
☐ Music

☐ Political

- ☐ Religion/Phi-  
     losophy  
☐ Science  
☐ Sculpture  
☐ Social/Human-  
     itarian  
☐ Theater  
☐ Transportation

☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original house, built in the 1690's, burned in the 1780's; the present house was erected from the same brick and was covered by pebbledash.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		°	'	"	
NE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SW	°	'	"		°	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

24 Sept 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

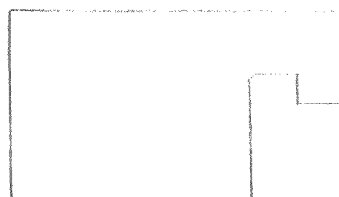
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



MEN  
SLACK



DAIRY



CHAPEL



PROBABLE SITE  
OF STOREHOUSE



PG: 79-10

COMPTON BASSETT  
UPPER MARLBOROUGH  
MARYLAND

NOT DRAWN TO SCALE  
MWC 1/77

NATIONAL  
REGISTER  
BOUNDARY



HILL

TOBACCO  
BARN

RUIN

TENANT  
HSE.

STABLE

STABLE

COWSHED

fields

CEMETERY

DAIRY

HOUSE

MEAT  
HSE.

CHAPEL

RUIN

RUIN

OLD  
MARLBORO PIKE

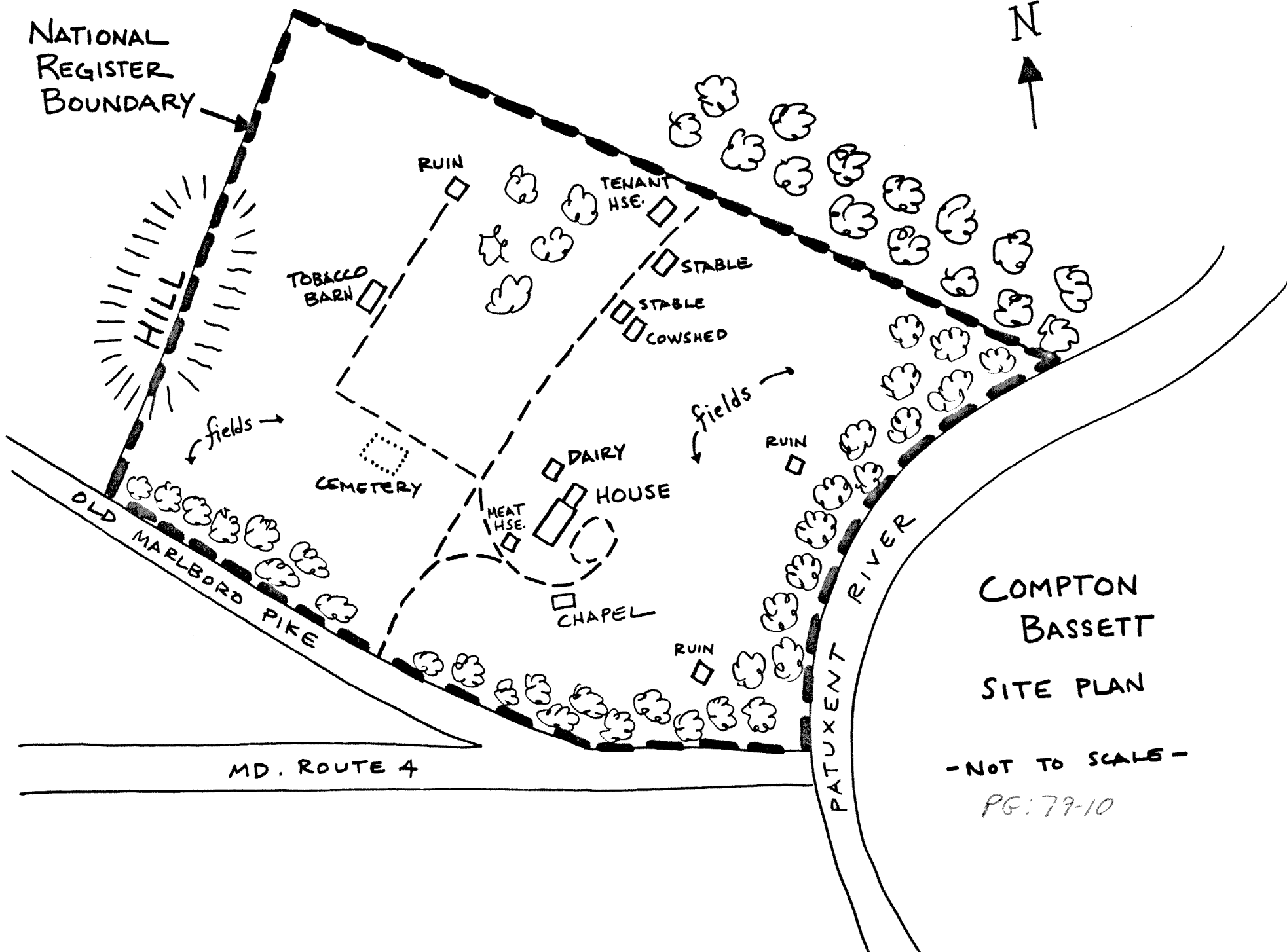
PATUXENT RIVER

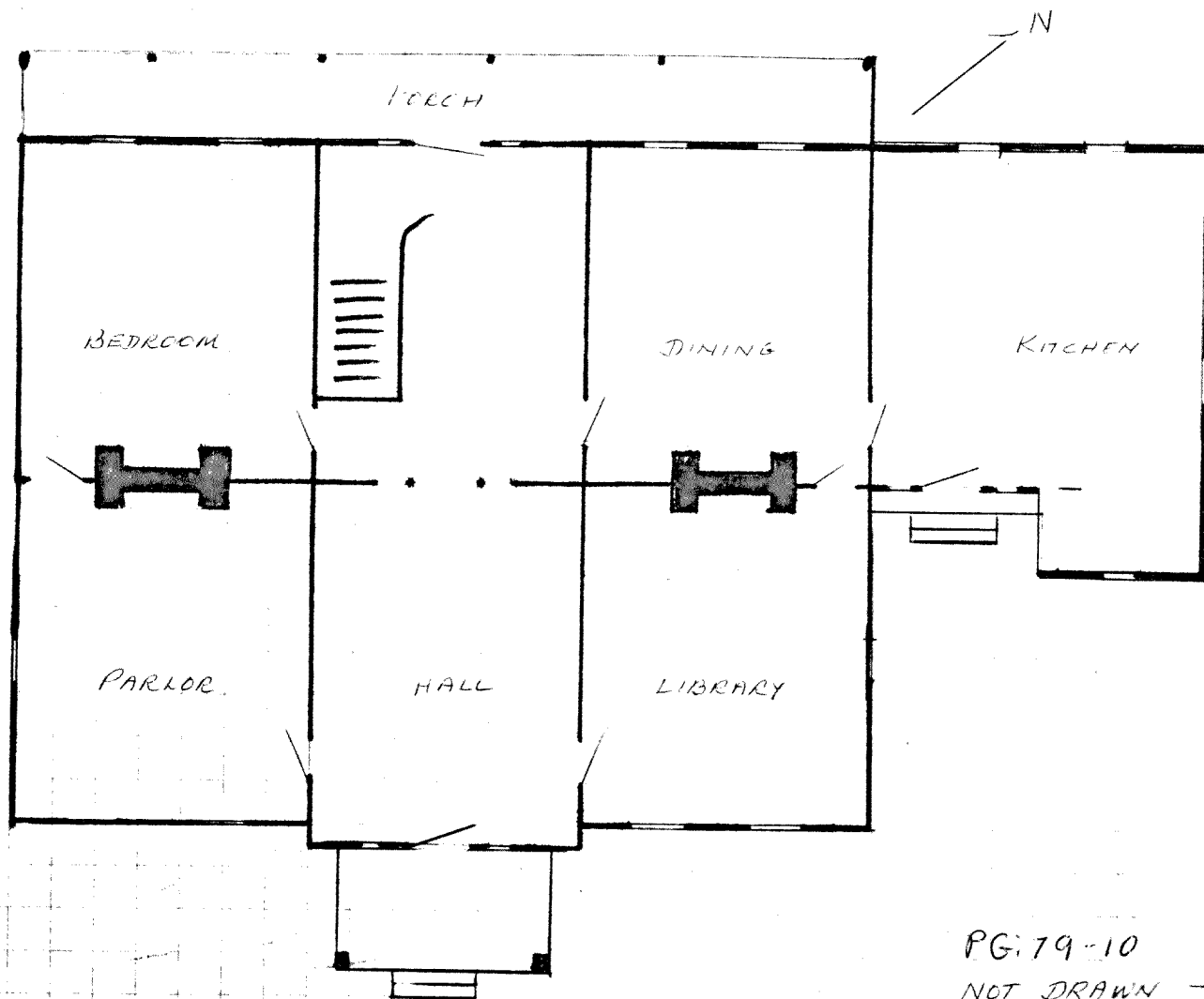
MD. ROUTE 4

COMPTON  
BASSETT  
SITE PLAN

- NOT TO SCALE -

PG: 79-10



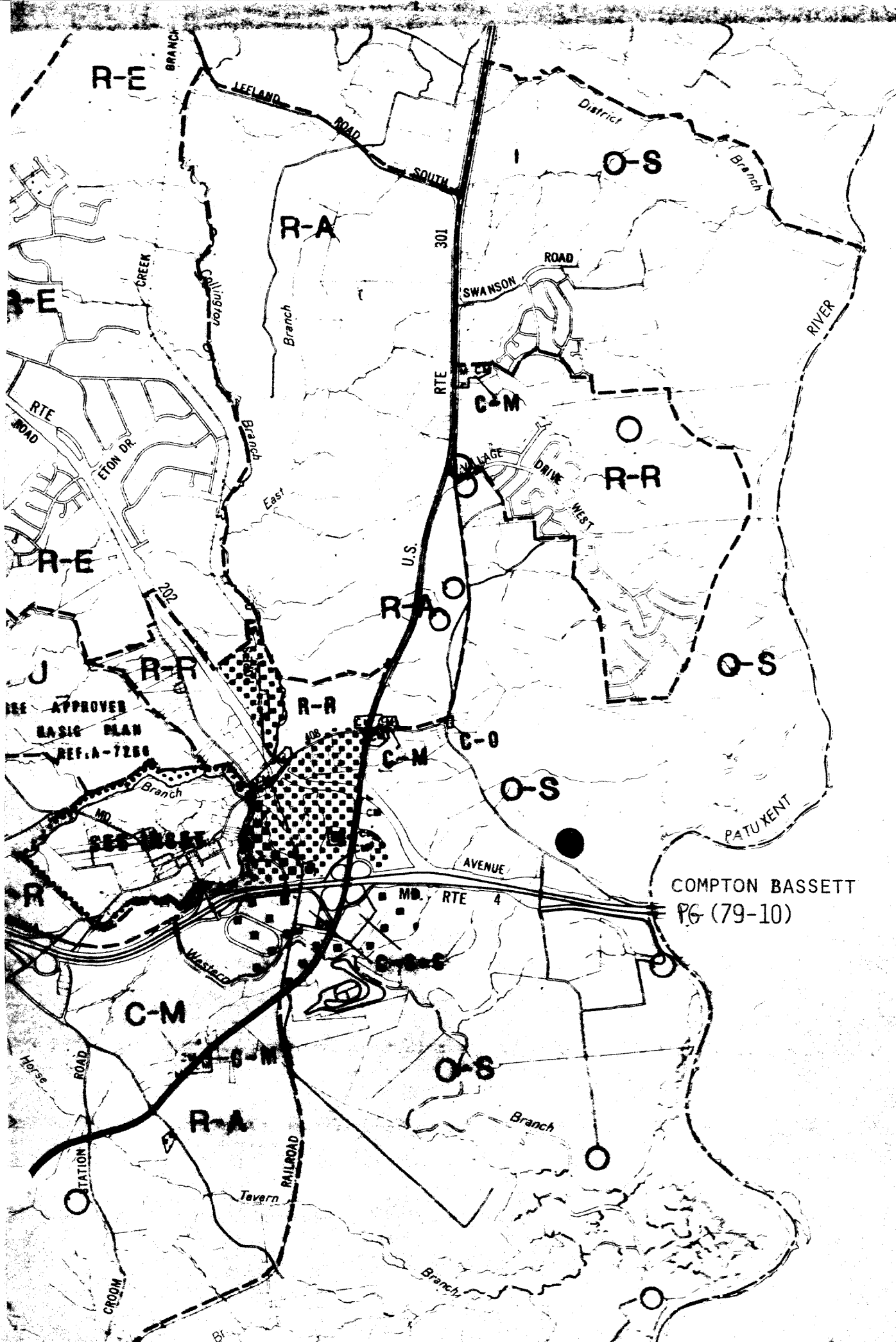


PG. 79-10

NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

MWC

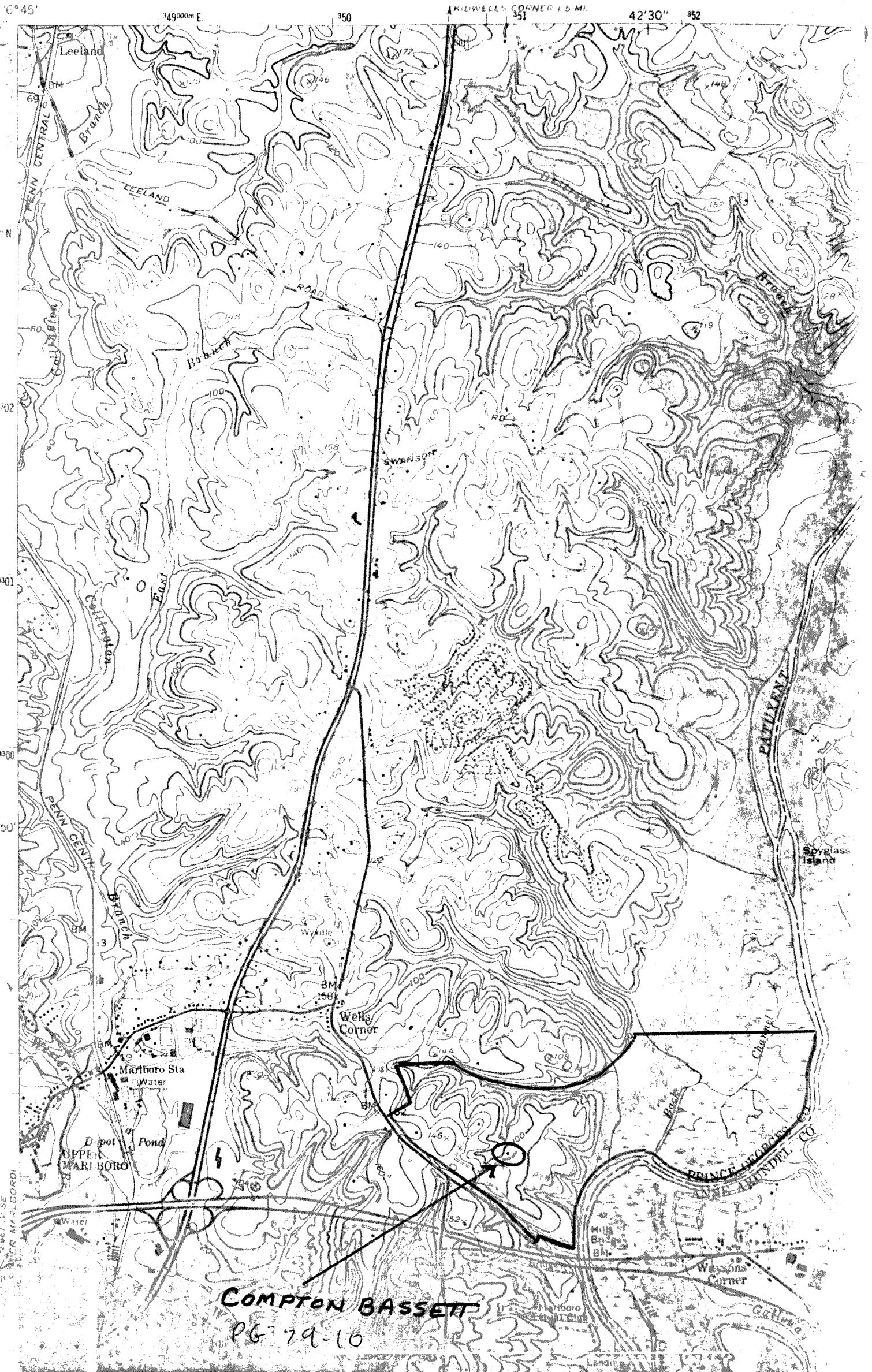
2/3



COMPTON BASSETT  
PG (79-10)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMPTON BASSETT  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
Bristol Quadrangle  
1:24 000  
1957 Photorevised 1970





NAME COMPTON-BASSETT

PET 77-110

LOCATION Rt. 408 NEAR RIVER, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 9/24/74 M DWYER





NAME COMPTON BASSETT

PG: 79-10

LOCATION Rt. 408 UPPER MARLBORO, Md

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 9/24/74 MDWYER



NAME COMPTON BASSETT/CHAPEL

PG: 79-10

LOCATION Rte. 408 UPPER MARLBORO, MD.

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 9/24/74 M. DWYER



NAME COMPTON - BASSETT - SMOKEHOUSE DAILY  
LOCATION Rt 408 NEAR RIVER UPPER MARLBORO, Md.  
FACADE SW  
PHOTO TAKEN 9/24/74 M DWYER



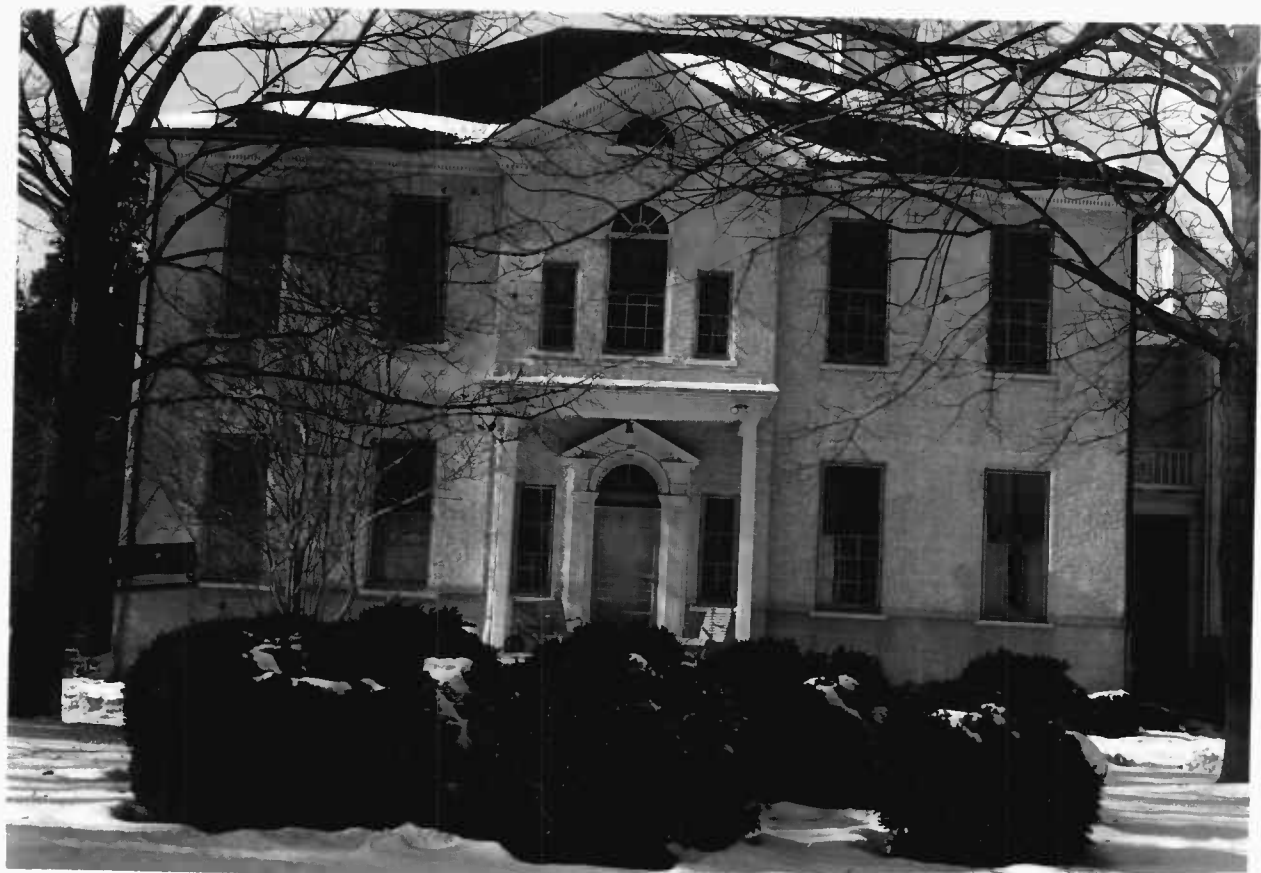
NAME COMPTON BASSETT - ~~SARASE~~ DAIRY

PG 129 100

LOCATION Rt 408 UPPER MARLBORO, Md

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 9/24/74 MDWYER









Fe 28-12

100 ft + 100 ft = 200 ft

100 ft + 100 ft = 200 ft (100 ft + 100 ft)

west elevation (100 ft + 100 ft)

Margaret Cook 1/17



PG: 79-10

Compton 720 234 111

16308 Main Street P.O. Box 10000

Southwest Division

Front Door Detail

Margaret Cook 1/77

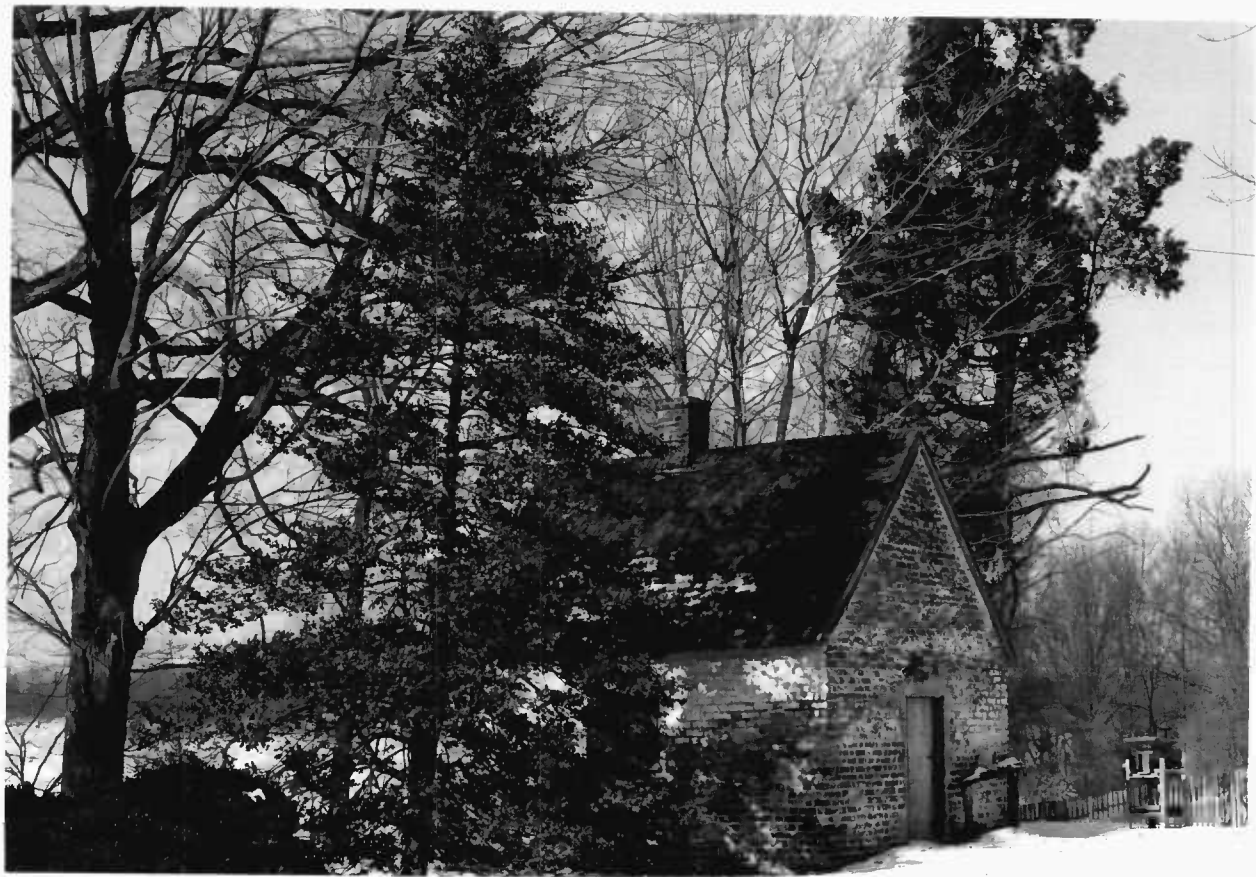


PE 17 11-12

2004/12/12 13:00-14:00

Northwest 1/10/12

Margaret Sook 1/10/12





PE: 79-10

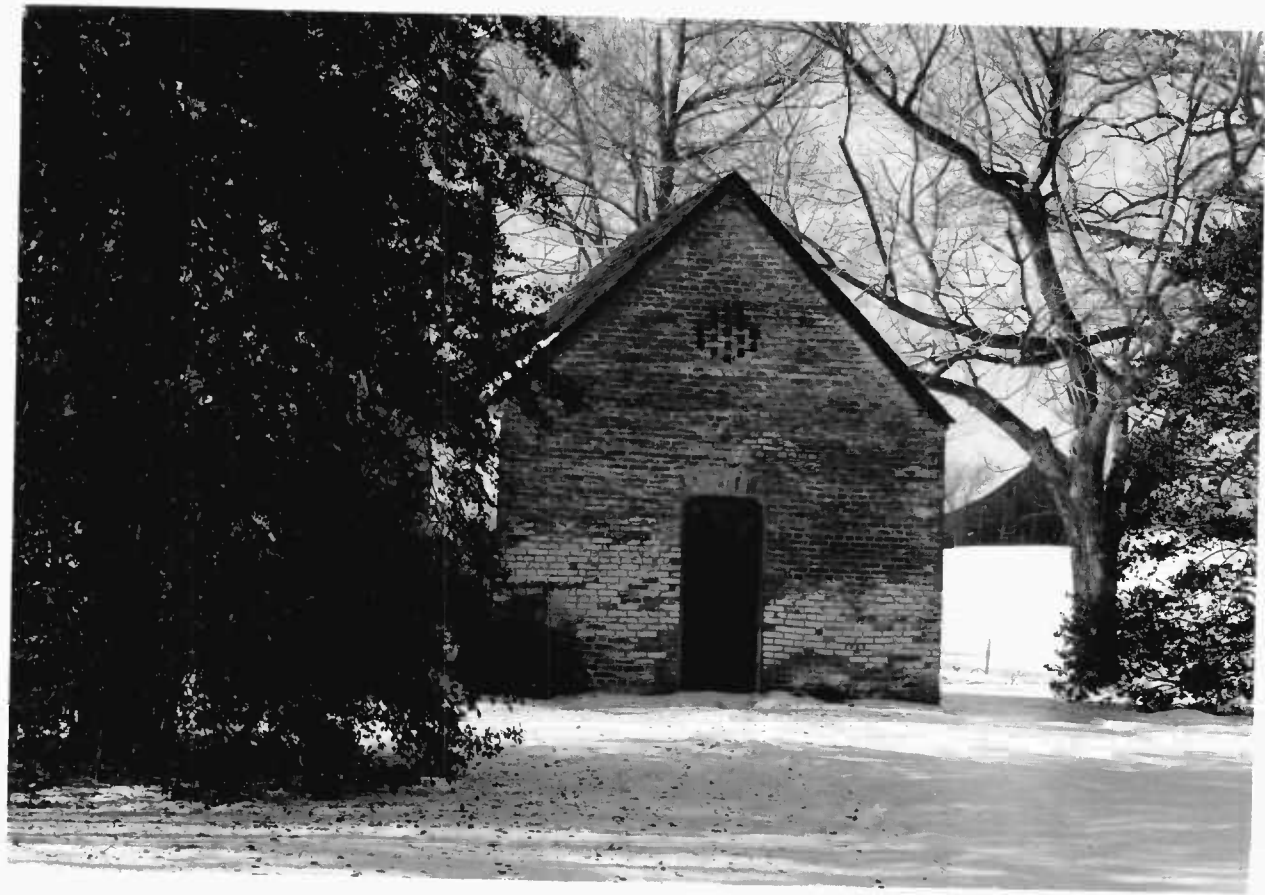
Chapman Box 44

16323 Marlboro Pike (MB 722)

Daily

South Carolina

Margaret Cook 1/79



PG:79-10

Compton Bassett

Smokehouse

S. F. 100

Margaret Cook 1/77